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Record Item: Trial Testimony of...

File Unit: Civil Case #1333, *Davis et al v. County School Board of Prince Edward County, VA, et al.*, Box 126, Volume 2 (for Isidor Chein's testimony) or Volume 5 (for Mamie P. Clark, Horace B. English, Alfred McClung Lee, William H. Kelly, John Nelson Buck, and Henry E. Garrett's testimony), then the page number.

Series: Civil Case Files

Subgroup: Records of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, Richmond Division

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MAMIE PHIPPS CLARK, called as a witness by and on behalf of the Plaintiffs in rebuttal, being first duly sworn, testified as follows:

EXAMINED BY MR. CARTER:

Q Would you give us your name, please?

A My name is Mamie Phipps Clark.

JUDGE DOBIE: Will you talk a little bit louder, please?

THE WITNESS: Yes, I will try to.

JUDGE DOBIE: What is your name?

THE WITNESS: My name is Mamie Phipps Clark.

BY MR. CARTER:

Q What is your present occupation?

A Why, I am the Director of the North Side Center for Child Development, in New York City.

Q What do your duties entail in that capacity, Dr. Clark?

A Well, as a Director of the Child Guidance Clinic, it is my job to see that the clinic runs -- to see that the organization goes smoothly. We have a staff, an inter-racial staff of eight psychiatrists, four psychologists, four psychiatric case workers, a consulting pediatrician, a consulting neurologist, in addition to four clerical staff.

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Q What is your educational background?

A I was graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree from Howard University, in Washington, D. C.; I received a Master of Science degree from Howard University, and a Doctor of Philosophy degree from Columbia University.

Q You studied at that time under Professor Garrett, did you not?

A That is true.

Q Have you made any studies of the personality adjustment problems of children?

A I think that the Court probably has heard that my husband and I have done a number of studies on the development of personality of Negro children.

BY JUDGE DOBIE:

Q Are you Dr. Clark's wife?

A Yes.

MR. ALMOND: If Your Honor please, we do not want to seem facetious, but if they intend to go back over the same territory that they covered with Dr. Clark, this puts an interminable aspect on this proceeding.

JUDGE DOBIE: It is not going to be interminable, Mr. Attorney General. I give you my solemn promise of that. They have had perfect opportunity to intro-

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duce her in chief and her husband. They will make it very brief. The door has been opened and I do want not/it stated that we tried to exclude anything relevant or germane, but I will ask you, Mr. Carter

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MR. CARTER: I am not going over anything that was said before. I am merely trying to get her qualifications into the record.

JUDGE DOBIE: He did not object to her qualifications.

BY MR. CARTER:

Q Other than the studies that have been mentioned that your husband did with you, have you made any studies yourself, alone?

A Yes, I have.

Q Will you indicate?

A I do not have list of the publications or the journals. I think I could say, briefly, that there are some six publications.

Q You belong to a number of professional organizations, I assume?

A Yes, I do.

Q Would you name a few of them?

A Well, I am an Associate member of the American

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Psychological Association, a member of the New York State Psychological Association, a member of the American Orthopsychiatric Association, and I am also a certified psychologist in the New York State Department of Mental Hygiene.

Q In your specialty, is it correct to describe you as a clinical psychologist?

A I think it is more nearly correct to describe me as a psychologist and a director of the clinic.

Q Would you feel yourself, Dr. Clark, on the basis of casual observation alone, able to determine what the personality effects were with regard to children in any other group?

A I would say definitely no, that on the basis of a casual observation of any group of people I, as a scientist, would not feel qualified to make any judgment about the personality of the people in the group.

Q It has been testified that whereas segregation can be changed at the graduate and professional school level, it was much more difficult to make it at the elementary and high school level. Dr. Clark, in your opinion, as between adolescent children and adults, which is the more adjustable to change?

A In my opinion, I would say there is absolutely

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5 no basis for saying that it is more difficult to adjust at the high school level. I think it has been demonstrated that when segregation laws are broken down at the graduate level, integration can take place. I think it has been demonstrated that when segregation laws are broken down at the elementary school level, integration can take place.

Now in order to assume that at the high school level integration is not possible, we would have to assume that, say, at the last day of the sixth grade all of a sudden the child who has been matured and who has accepted other children in the school, now suddenly changes and cannot accept other children. But on the last day of high school, when he is now graduated, all of a sudden he changes back and he can accept integration.

I think that process, if it is one of maturity, and I think it has been testified to, is a gradual one. It just does not happen on the last day of high school, it happens over a period of years. So on that basis, I would say there is absolutely no justification for saying that the high school level is different.

MR. MOORE: No questions.

JUDGE DOBIE: All right.

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